

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 18, 24 – 38, 43 – 57 are pending in the subject application. Claims 1-48 have been examined: claims 1 – 11, 19 – 33, and 39 – 42 stand rejected, and claims 12 – 18, 34 – 38, and 43 – 48 are allowed. By the above amendments, claims 19 – 23 and 39 – 42 are canceled, claims 1 and 24 have been amended, and new claims 49 – 57 have been added. Favorable reconsideration of the application and allowance of all of the pending claims are respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for allowing claims 12 – 18, 34 – 38, and 43 – 48.

Claims 1 – 11, 19 – 33, and 39 – 42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,233,626 to Ames. Claims 19 – 23 and 39 – 42 have been canceled, thereby rendering moot this rejection as it applies to these claims.

With regard to independent claims 1 and 24 and their dependent claims, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 24 to include limitations similar to those in allowed claims 12 and 43 that distinguish these claims from Ames. In particular, claims 1 and 24 have been amended to require that a common time reference be established among the transmitting communication devices and that the transmitting communication devices be commanded to schedule the transmissions at a certain time. The repeater system of Ames does not disclose or suggest such a scheme. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 1 – 11 and 24 – 33 over Ames.

New claims 49 (49/1), 52 (52/12), and 55 (55/24) require the transmitting communication devices to be in a peer-to-peer network. New claims 50 (50/1), 53 (53/12), and 56 (56/24) require establishing a lead communication device among the transmitting communication devices, wherein the lead communication device communicates with the other transmitting communication devices to schedule a time at which the lead communication device and the other transmitting communication devices are to send the transmitted signal to the receiving communication device. New claims 51 (51/1), 54 (54/12), and 57 (57/24) require the use of a carrier sense multiple access with collision avoidance (CSMA/CA) protocol to transmit the

Amendment

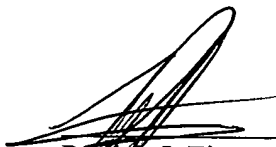
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/073,037

plurality of transmitted signals from the transmitting communication devices to the receiving communication device. Support for the newly claimed subject matter is found in Applicant's specification, and all of these claims should be patentable at least by virtue of their dependence on allowable base claims for the reasons set forth above.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to find the application to be in condition for allowance with claims 1 – 18, 24 – 38, 43 – 57. However, if for any reason the Examiner feels that the application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney to discuss any unresolved issues and to expedite the disposition of the application.

Note that while nine (9) new claims were added, nine (9) claims were also canceled; thus, no additional claim fees should be due at this time. Applicant hereby petitions for any extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this case, and any required fee for such extension is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 05-0460.

Respectfully submitted,



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